GENERAL AND REVENUE SECRETARIAT.

1904.05

(III Series)

File No. 155 G. 04-05

Serial Nos. 1+2

Confidential.

Papers Filed.

Month March 1905

SUBJECT.

C. C. D. Circular regarding G Manzur-ul-Abrahamuud alias Manzur Ahmad Khan alias Mahfuz Ahmad.

PREVIOUS REFERENCES.	LATER REFERENCES.
J.F 1169.02 -03	

G. R. S. 11] 1904.-05

GENERAL AND REVENUE SECRETARIAT

(III Police.)

NOTES.

File. No 155: 1904-05

FILE HEADING.

C.C.D. Circular regarding Manzur-ul-Mahamud alias Manzur Ahmud Khan alias Mazur Ahmud Khan.

From

The First Assistant Resident in Mysore.

No. 1450 Dated 11.3.05 Received 22.3.05

Diary No. 1973	Enclos.	Spare Copies.	Serial No. 1

BRIEF ABSTRACT OF LETTER.

Forwards a C.C.D circular regarding the above person (late an A.D.C of the late Patiala Maharaja) who is travelling from place to place with the sole object of getting money from the Native Chiefs & it is requested to watch & report his movements as occasion arises.

NOTES AND ORDERS.

1 | Submitted with a draft endorsement forwarding the Circular to the Kg's Police, as ordered by the Dewan Saheb. SP 21/3/05

Passed 24.3.1905

2 | No. J 2746/155-2 dated the 29th March 1905 to

NOTES—First sheet.

MGCPB—50,000—17-2-05.

G.R.S. 12]

General and Revenue Secretariat.

File No. 155 of 1904-05

Serial No.

The Inspector general of police

Forwards copy of sl no 1 for infor-
mation and necessary action in con-
Timation of this office No. 134 dt 18.1
D.F 46 90 03

[Confidential.]

MEMORANDUM.

The following particulars are on record, in the Central Criminal Intelligence Department regarding **Manzur-ul-Muhammad** *alias* **Manzur Ahmad Khan** *alias* **Matzur Ahmad Khan** :—

The '*Turkestan Gazette*' of $\frac{17}{30}$th April 1903 contained the following :—"India. The '*Novoe Vremya*' reports that the Indian Prince Matzur Ahmad Khan, Sardar Bahadur, formerly a Colonel in the Indian Army, has arrived at Theodosia. The Prince intends to ask that he may be given employment in the Russian Army."

Enquiries were set on foot which elicited that Matzur Ahmad Khan is identical with one Manzur Ahmad, formerly employed in the Patiala and Maler Kotla States, in the Panjab, about whom the following particulars have been furnished by the Panjab and United Provinces S. Bs. :—

In November 1902, an individual calling himself "Lieutenant-Colonel" Manzur Ahmad Khan called on the British Consul-General at Shanghai, showed him a large collection of letters from various well-known military men and said he was travelling round the world. In December of the same year he applied to the British Consul at Chefoo for relief, stating that he had been robbed of Rs. 5,000 and 75 roubles while travelling on the railway between Port Arthur and Dalny. He mentioned that he was a native of Lucknow, was educated at the M. A. O. College at Aligarh, and had been Aide-de-Camp to the late Maharaja of Patiala, on whose death he joined the Maler Kotla Lancers. The Consul thereupon paid his hotel and other expenses amounting to $ 21·90, and also provided him and his servant with a passage to Shanghai. On arrival there he induced the Consul-General to pay his passage to Hong Kong, and he gave a receipt for the total amount expended by the different Consuls on his account, *viz.*, $ 105·70= Rs. 125-8-0, which sum he undertook to refund on his arrival in India.

The Panjab Government subsequently ascertained that Manzur Ahmad Khan was at one time employed in the Patiala State, and at a later date in the Maler Kotla State, and was discharged from the service of the latter on the 31st March 1902.

On the 7th September 1903 Manzur Ahmad Khan was reported to be living with his father, one Munshi Kadir Bakhsh Khan, *Abkari Daroga*, whose house is in Muhalla Faizganj, Moradabad City, United Provinces. He was also said to be anxious to start on another pilgrimage to Mecca, but his father had, for the time being, refused his consent.

On the 10th October 1903 the Government of the United Provinces reported to the Foreign Department of the Government of India that Manzur Ahmad Khan's father had repaid in full the sum advanced by His Majesty's Consul at Chefoo and the Consul-General at Shanghai.

A reference to the Political Agent, Phulkian States and Bahawalpur, elicited that Manzur Ahmad Khan's connection with the Patiala State arose out of his having gone with a team from the M. A. O. College at Aligarh to play cricket at Patiala. His name was then Manzur-ul-Muhammad. The Maharaja took a fancy to him and appointed him a *Musahib* on Rs. 100 pay *plus* Rs. 150 in lieu of rations, and gave him a small house in the Baradari gardens. He had nothing to do except to play cricket, and when, on the death of the Maharaja, his services were dispensed with, he left the State. It is believed that he had some connection with the Nawab of Loharu, and his account that he had served as an officer in the Maler Kotla Cavalry regiment is correct. The Political Agent added that he had numerous letters from high officials recommending him for a Commission as a Native Officer in the Indian Army, and that the account furnished about his proceedings in China was true.

In July 1904 the Inspector General of the Central India Agency Police, while at Ratlam making certain enquiries at the Post Office relating to another matter, ascertained from decoy letters sent ahead in the name of "Colonel Manzur Ahmad Khan" that the latter intended visiting that station. Knowing Manzur Ahmad's antecedents, Mr. Waterfield communicated the necessary warning to the Political Agent and officials concerned, with the result that the impostor failed to benefit in any way by his visit. On arrival at Ratlam on the 23rd July Manzur Ahmad asked for interviews with the Diwan and Political Agent, both of which were accorded on the following day. In a letter to the former he said he had just come from Patiala and signed himself "late A. D. C. to the late Maharaja of Patiala and Commandant, Maler Kotla Lancers." He asked the Diwan for accommodation at the expense of the State and the use of a carriage, both of which were refused. The Diwan, however, promised to see about getting him employment.

Mr. Waterfield was present at Manzur Ahmad's interview with the Political Agent and elicited the following account of his career from his letters and statements. Mr. Waterfield writes:—

"His father, as was reported by the Panjab S. B. (*vide* paragraph 923, United Provinces S. B. Abstract for 1904), is Munshi Kadir Bakhsh, *Darpga* of Abkari, Saharanpur, United Provinces. Manzur Ahmad was educated at the Aligarh College where he was in the cricket eleven as wicket keeper. This being at the time the late Maharaja of Patiala was collecting his cricket team, H. H. enlisted Manzur Ahmad and made him an A. D. C. to himself. As such Manzur Ahmad probably received large presents of money and of clothes; in fact he states now he received over Rs. 5,000 worth of clothes, and it is no doubt out of that store that he now replenishes his wardrobe. During the Tirah Expedition, Manzur Ahmad says he accompanied the Maharaja to the front as A. D. C. and received the medal, the ribbon of which he wears on his uniform, though no one appears to have seen him wearing the medal. He afterwards said he received the medal as a follower (*i.e.*, the bronze medal). After the death of the late Maharaja of Patiala, he appears to have set out with letters of introduction from Colonel Massy, Captain Popham Young and General Creagh in order to procure a Commission in the Native Army. He appears then to have made a considerable tour for he has a letter of introduction to Colonel Desraj Urs of Mysore from Colonel Barr, dated Bolarum, 1902. His wanderings after that, up to the beginning of 1903, are impossible to trace at present, for his own accounts vary so that he contradicts himself and changes his story almost every moment. However, in this interval, according to his own account, he went to Mecca and then, through the influence of the Nawab of Loharu, who he says is some relative and is Superintendent of the Maler Kotla State, he obtained employment in the Maler Kotla Lancers, in what rank he will not specify; and, when the China war occurred, went out with the Maler Kotla Sappers and Miners.

His own account of his doings in China is that he got pneumonia and obtained leave for 2 years and from Shanghai went to Kobe and Yokohama and thence to Port Said, whence he paid another visit to Mecca and hence to Jerusalem and Constantinople. He at first tried to make out that he had not been in Asia Minor, but when pressed, admitted having been to Theodosia whence, he says, he went to Constantinople and Cairo. He returned to India on the 1st June 1903 and went to Ootacamund and Bellary.

He says he did not return to Maler Kotla and did not know that he was discharged, but considered himself still on leave. He could not be got to say what his next movements were and I could only get a clue of them again after the time of his visits to Nellore and Waltair (*vide* paras. 807, 870 and 1133 of the United Provinces S. B. Police Abstracts, 1904) regarding which he admitted receiving Rs. 50 from the Maharaja of Bobbili which he had not paid back.

From Waltair he says he returned straight to Patiala and has lately been staying in Agra.

At Nimach after seeing the Political Agent and failing to get a letter of introduction to the Raja of Ratlam, he says he went round and saw many

of the Officers of the station and obtained a letter of introduction to the Raja from Colonel Nedham, Cantonment Magistrate.

"Being told that he would not be allowed to exploit Central India and must leave Ratlam at once, he asked for advice as to what he should do, and then produced a letter, dated 5th July 1904, from Major Powys-Lane, Commanding the 96th Berar Infantry, Aurangabad, asking him to pay him a visit if he wanted to get a commission in his regiment, and asked whether he should go and show himself. I told him certainly, if he intended to get a commission, but that it seemed to me he was already too old, when he coolly told me he was too old but he had got his age put down less than it was, so as to have a chance. As a matter of fact I do not believe he has the slightest intention of taking service. It is all a blind in order to procure letters of introduction, etc., in order to make him appear well known and respectable and so the easier fleece Native Chiefs and officials.

"He said he would go and see his father, who he now said was in Jhansi and wanted him back. I agreed with him that it would be a good plan.

"He was very little abashed at being told plain truths and having his history dragged out, and in a few moments was quite his jaunty self again and took his departure declaring he was misjudged. He then went straight off to the Diwan again and asked for money point blank, and on being refused his original request, asked for amounts in a diminishing scale until he finally asked at least Rs. 5 and his board at the Dak Bungalow. These were refused him.

"On the 25th July 1904 he left Ratlam taking a ticket for Ujjain and sending one box on to Bhopal, whereupon I wired to the Political Agent warning him and informing him that Manzur Ahmad would probably try to get put up by Major Karim Beg of the Bhopal Imperial Service Lancers.

"There can be no doubt that the man's travels have only one object, *viz.*, obtaining money from Native Chiefs, and it would be as well if all Political Officers and Darbars were warned concerning him.

"His descriptive roll is as follows:—Height about 5 feet 7 or 8 inches, age 25—27 years; moustache kept clipped like a worn-out tooth brush, complexion neither fair nor over dark, long features with a set smile upon his lips, while his eyes, lightish grey or grey brown, are almost always cast down. Talks incessantly in very fair English and is most obsequious. Smart and well set up with a lithe body and very long hands.

"Wears either a green tunic with gold facings and two medal ribbons, Tirah and China, with Lieutenant-Colonel's badges, overalls, a dark green and gold pagri, or with the pagri a black frock coat, cream coloured flowered waistcoat, green and red tie of latest fashion and old patent leather boots with brown tops, but probably has at present several changes."

Manzur Ahmad Khan did not stay in Bhopal, but finding that there would be no welcome for him left at once ostensibly for Jhansi. Enquiries, however, showed that he did not go to that place, presumably therefore he returned to his home at Moradabad, where he now is. He is reported to be heavily in

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File No 155 S
Serial no. 2

C.C.G. Cir: No 2 d: 21-2-05 received with

[Here enter letter No 11150 dated 11th March 1905. from the First Assistant Resident].

J 2746 P/29/3/05.
Police 155-2

Copy of the above is forwarded to the Inspector-General of Police in Mysore, for information and necessary action, in Cont. of this office Memo. No 134-J 7 Hbgpos d: 13-3-05.

24-3-1905

Secretary.

SN
24/3/05

Copies to 27/3/05

Examined SN
28/3/05